

SALTHOUSE FARM, SALTHOUSE ROAD, MILLOM, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Evaluation



Client: Neil Price Ltd

Planning ref.: 04/08/2030

NGR: 317491 480820

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Non-Technical Summary

Following submission of a planning application for the demolition of a group of farm buildings and construction of new dwellings at Salthouse Farm, Salthouse Road, Millom, Cumbria, Greenlane Archaeology was commissioned to carry out a targeted evaluation of those areas that were thought most likely to be of archaeological interest in order to assess the nature and survival of any archaeological remains within the development area. A desk-based assessment, previously completed in association with a programme of building recording, confirmed the likely status of Salthouse Farm as the probable site of a salt works of medieval date, and also revealed that the surrounding area is relatively rich in medieval and potentially earlier remains, particularly on account of the nearby castle and parish church, the former of which was associated with Salthouse Farm in the post-medieval period.

The two trenches excavated in the paddock area on the west side of the site revealed a complex of field drains, although these were unusual in being cut through a lower layer of subsoil rather than into the natural. Two pits, one very small and one very shallow, were also revealed, the former of which contained a large piece of industrial residue perhaps deriving from salt making. In addition, the subsoil in one of these trenches contained a relatively large number of fragments of thick ceramic tiles of uncertain function. Both trenches were, however, disturbed by the presence of live electrical services. The two trenches excavated close to the buildings revealed a thick layer of apparently sterile sand in one and a more complex arrangement of sandy deposits in the other thought likely to have resulted from waste material produced during salt manufacture. Again, the latter of these trenches had a number of thick ceramic tile fragments amongst the overburden, as well as an iron item, perhaps a rake head, hoe, or remains of a shovel or ladle, all of which may relate to salt manufacture, although the associated deposits were disturbed by a pair of active water pipes and a large associated cut. A small amount of residual medieval pottery of probable 12th – 14th century was also recovered from the subsoils in the paddock area.

Although no significant features were revealed and there was considerable disturbance of the deposits, a number of finds were recovered that suggest salt was being manufactured on the site, although and perhaps significantly, in the post-medieval period. At present there is little documentary evidence relating to the site and nothing to indicate the date at which it went of use so these findings are of some significance. It is considered likely that other deposits and possibly structural remains relating to the saltworks are likely to be situated in close proximity or perhaps beneath the standing buildings adjacent to the farmhouse.

Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank Neil Price Ltd for commissioning the project and in particular Tim Coldrick for his information about the site and for providing the site plans, and Anthony, who drove and operated the excavator. Additional thanks are due to Jeremy Parsons, Historic Environment Officer at Cumbria County Council, for approving the project design and monitoring the work on site. Special thanks are due to Stephen Whitaker and family at Salthouse Farm for their help, information, and hospitality on site. Further thanks are due to Mark Brennand, Senior Historic Environment Officer at Cumbria County Council, Alice Cattermole, Historic Environment Record Officer at Norfolk County Council, and Paul Cope-Faulkner at Archaeological Project Services for providing information on previous archaeological investigations of salt work sites.

The archaeological evaluation was carried out by Dan Elsworth and Tom Mace, who co-wrote this report. The finds were examined by Jo Dawson, who also edited the report. The project was managed by Dan Elsworth.

1. Introduction

1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 Following the submission of a planning application by Neil Price Limited (hereafter 'the client'; Planning Application No. 04/08/2030) for the demolition of a group of farm buildings and construction of 11 new dwellings at Salthouse Farm, Salthouse Road, Millom, Cumbria (NGR 317491 480820), a condition (number six) was placed by Copeland Borough Council on the planning consent stating that:

'No development shall commence within the site until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority'.

1.1.2 After discussions with Jeremy Parsons, Historic Environment Officer at Cumbria County Council, a brief for this work was provided (Parsons 2010), which confirmed that it was to comprise an archaeological desk-based assessment and a Level-2 type archaeological building recording (English Heritage 2006) for the buildings to be demolished. This work was carried out by Greenlane Archaeology between October and November 2010. The desk-based assessment confirmed the known status of Salthouse Farm as the probable site of a salt works of medieval date, and also revealed that the surrounding area is relatively rich in medieval and potentially earlier remains, particularly on account of the nearby castle and parish church, the former of which was associated with Salthouse Farm in the post-medieval period (Greenlane Archaeology 2010). Based on the results of the desk-based assessment, it was determined by the Historic Environment Officer at Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service that the site should be subject to an archaeological evaluation in order to determine the extent of any below-ground remains of archaeological significance.

1.1.3 Greenlane Archaeology produced a project design (*Appendix 1*) and after its approval by the Historic Environment Officer at Cumbria County Council, the archaeological evaluation was carried out on the 18th and 19th of January 2011.

1.2 Location, Geology, and Topography

1.2.1 Salthouse Farm is situated approximately 1km north-east of the centre of Millom, adjacent to the tidal area of the Duddon Channel to the east and the A5093 to the west (Ordnance Survey 2005). It is at a height of just under 10m above sea level (*ibid*).

1.2.2 The site is situated on the junction of a complex series of solid geology comprising Bannisdale Slates and Coniston Grits, Coniston limestone, and volcanic material of the Eycott and Skiddaw group, with a small area of carboniferous limestone to the south (Moseley 1978, plate 1). The solid geology is overlain by glacially derived drift deposits and boulder clay; although sands and gravels are also present (Countryside Commission 1998, 27). The close proximity to the coast line is also likely have been an important influence, with former marine deposits and earlier, more meandering channels undoubtedly present in the local area, although these have been altered by land reclamation and industrial activity such as the construction of the railway.

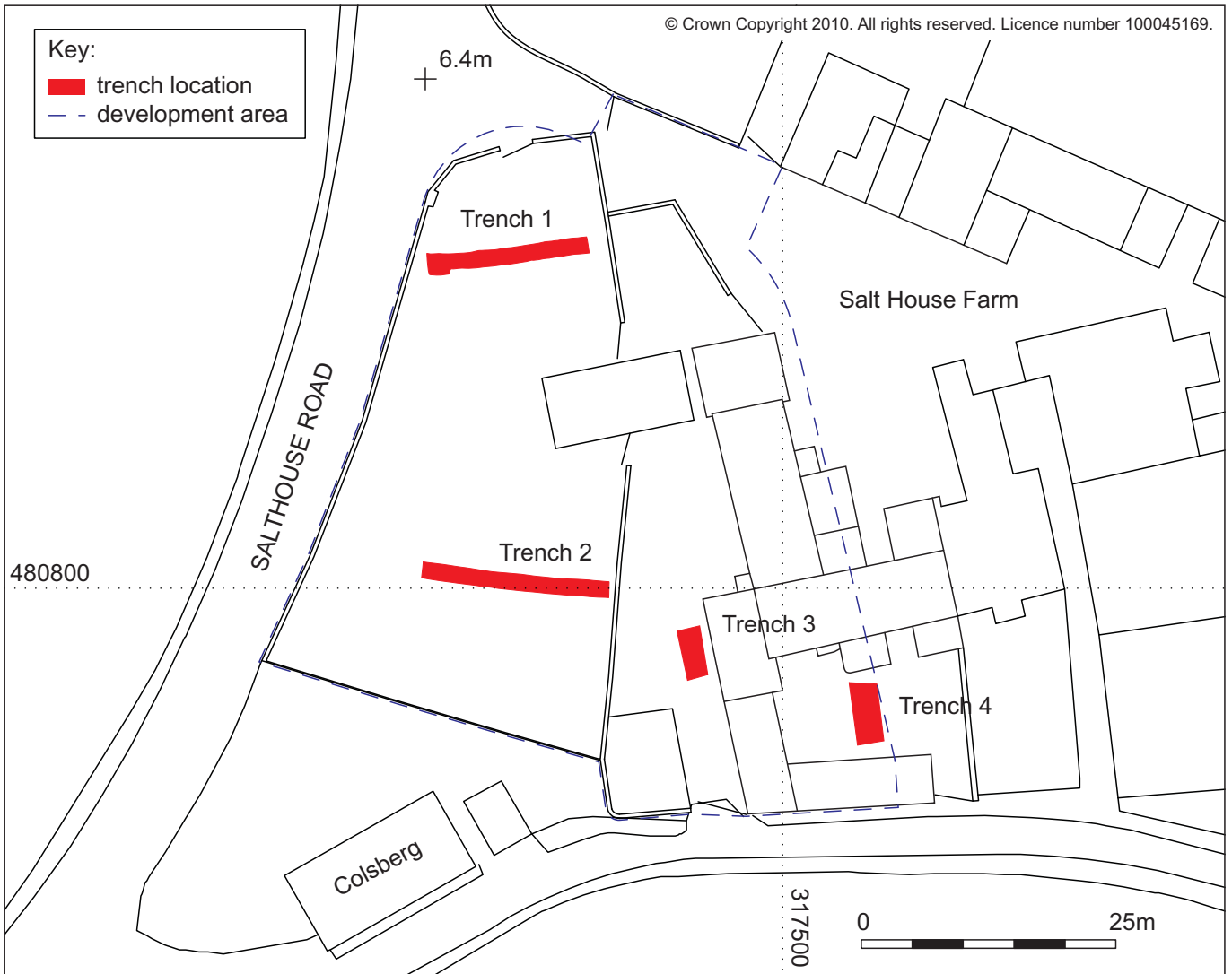
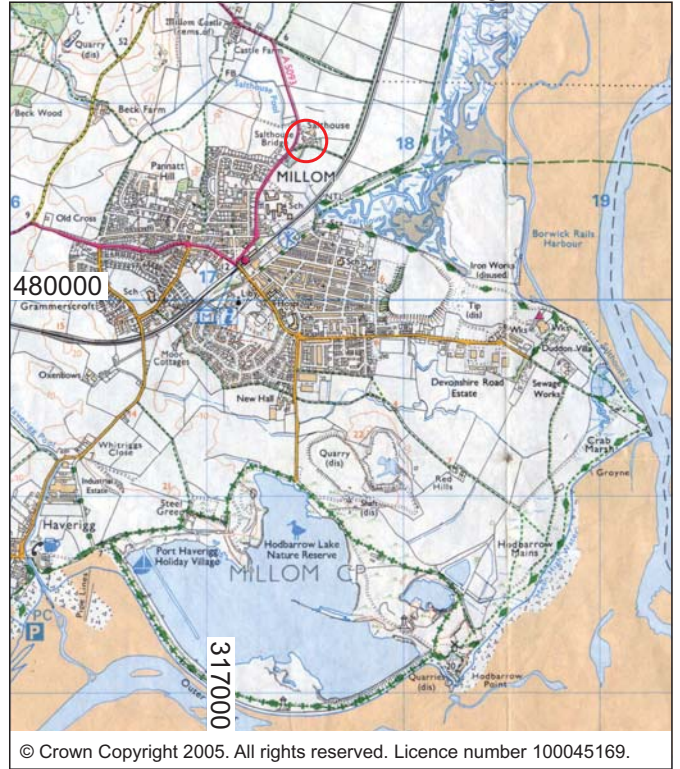
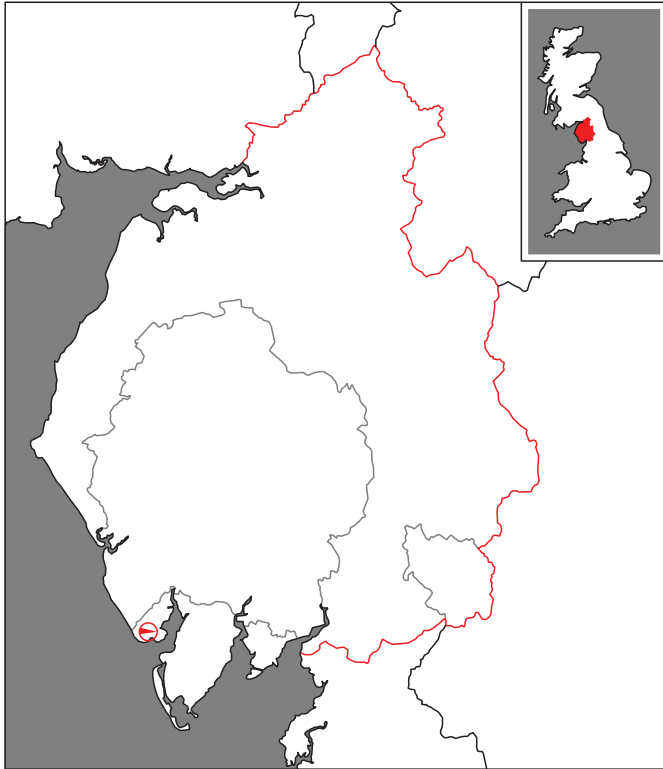


Figure 1: Site location

Client: Neil Price Ltd

2. Methodology

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 A desk-based assessment and Level-2 type building recording was carried out at Salthouse Farm ahead of the archaeological evaluation as a condition of the planning application, and the results of this work form a separate report (Greenlane Archaeology 2010). The archaeological evaluation comprised trial trenching, the intention of which was to establish, where possible, whether any remains of archaeological significance are present on the site and their nature, degree of survival, extent, significance, and date.

2.1.2 All aspects of the evaluation were carried out according to the standards and guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008).

2.2 Desk-Based Assessment

2.2.1 A desk-based assessment was carried out as part of the previous phase of work, the methodology for which is presented in the resulting report (Greenlane Archaeology 2010).

2.3 Archaeological Evaluation

2.3.1 Initially it was intended to excavate two trenches each approximately 15m long and 1.7m wide (a standard excavator bucket width) within the paddock area to the west of the standing buildings and two trenches approximately 10m long by 1.7m wide in the courtyards associated with the standing buildings, until significant archaeological deposits or the natural geology was reached, or to a depth of 1.2m (see *Appendix 1*). However, the arrangement of metal fencing within the courtyards, the proximity of the trenches to cattle sheds (which were still in use), constraints associated with locating the spoil, and the requirements of the farmer to cross the courtyard area (to the west of the standing buildings in particular) necessitated that the trenches in these areas be foreshortened. The two trenches in the courtyard areas (Trench 1 and Trench 2) were widened accordingly and the trenches in the paddock (Trench 3 and Trench 4) were extended to achieve the required sample area. Trench 1 had to be relocated further to the west than was anticipated in order to avoid a cable that was detected, running north/south, near to the field boundary wall at this point, similarly the west end of Trench 2 could not be properly excavated because of what was probably the service trench for the same cable (see Figure 2). Trench 1 measured approximately 15.8m by 1.6m; Trench 2 measured approximately 18.5m by 1.6m; Trench 3 measured approximately 2.2m by 4.9m; Trench 4 measured approximately 2.7m by 5.9m. The total area of trenching was 81.7m². In all of the trenches the topsoil/overburden removed by a back how loader fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, although in the case of Trenches 3 and 4 this followed the breaking up of the overlying concrete floor with a hydraulic breaker. After this deposits were examined by hand as per the project design (see *Appendix 2*) and the following recording techniques were used:

- **Written record:** descriptive records of all deposits and features (see *Appendix 2*) were made using Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets. In addition, a general record was made of the day's events;
- **Photographs:** photographs in both 35mm colour print and colour digital format were taken of all archaeological features uncovered during the evaluation, as well as general views of the site, the surrounding landscape, and working shots. A selection of the colour digital photographs is included in this report and the remainder are included in the archive. A written record of all of the photographs was also made using Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets (Greenlane Archaeology 2007);
- **Drawings:** drawings were produced on site as follows:
 - i. plans of Trench 1 and 2 were hand-drawn at a scale of 1:100;
 - ii. plans of Trench 3 and 4 were produced at a scale of 1:1 using a total station;

- iii. plans and sections of smaller features were hand-drawn at a scale of 1:50;

2.3.2 The location of the trenches was recorded relative to the known location of nearby buildings and other structures that were evident on the previous survey plans (provided by M & P Gadsden Ltd) and Ordnance Survey maps. Heights above Ordnance Datum were recorded utilising a spot height of 6.4m OD on Salthouse Road (the A5093) and are shown on Figure 1, Figure 2 and Figure 3.

2.4 Finds

2.4.1 **Processing:** artefacts were washed (or dried and dry brushed in the case of metal and glass), naturally air-dried, and packaged appropriately in self-seal bags with white write-on panels.

2.4.2 **Assessment and recording:** the finds were assessed, identified where possible, and a list of them was compiled (see *Appendix 3*).

2.5 Environmental samples

2.5.1 No environmental samples were taken since no suitable contexts were encountered.

2.6 Archive

2.6.1 A comprehensive archive of the project has been produced in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 1*) and current IfA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991; Brown 2007). The archive, which comprises the drawn, written, and photographic record, will be deposited with the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness (CRO(B)). A copy of the report will also be provided to the client, Greenlane Archaeology will retain a copy, three copies will be provided for the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER), and a digital copy will form part of the OASIS scheme (English Heritage 2007).

2.6.2 The client will ultimately be encouraged to transfer ownership of the finds to a suitable museum. Any finds recovered during the evaluation will be offered to Kendal Museum. The museum is, however, currently at close to full capacity, and it is unlikely that it would be willing to take anything unless it was of exceptional importance. If no suitable repository can be found the finds may have to be discarded, and in this case as full a record as possible would be made of them beforehand.

3. Site Archaeology and History

3.1 Map Regression

3.1.1 **Introduction:** the earliest maps of the area are typically lacking in detail and so only the maps that provide more detail about the development of the site at Salthouse are included.

3.1.2 **Tithe map, 1848:** there is a site marked 'Salthouse' near the location of Salthouse Farm, which is clear from its location in relation to Millom Church, which is marked to the right (Plate 1). There appears to be some difference in the arrangements of the roads at this date; the road connecting Salthouse and the castle and church is not apparently shown and the road system to the east is noticeably different due to the railway not having been constructed by this date, with a linking road to the castle and church running approximately north/south along the coast.

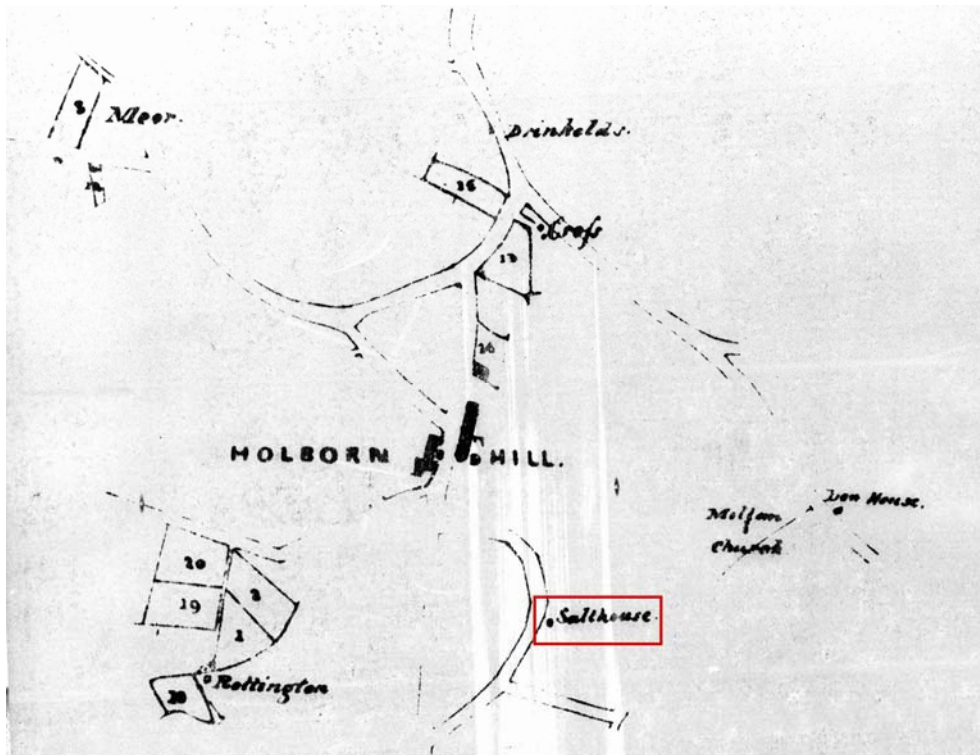


Plate 1: Extract from the Tithe map of 1848 (north is to the right)

3.1.3 **Ordnance Survey, 1867:** many of the farm buildings are shown on this edition of the Ordnance Survey map (Plate 2), however, the detail is limited and the alignment of the buildings has been slightly simplified inasmuch as the various buildings appear to be almost equidistant and perpendicular to the main road, to the west of the site, and are more squarely drawn than they really were. The arrangement of the roads at this time is much clearer, with the road connecting Salthouse to the castle and church running approximately north/south immediately adjoining the west side of the site. The original road linking to the castle and church to the east is possibly still present running along the site of the railway.



Plate 2: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1867

3.1.4 **Ordnance Survey, 1900:** this map (Plate 3) shows the site in more detail than the earlier edition of the Ordnance Survey (cf. Plate 2) and shows a similar arrangement of the main barn buildings and road to the west.



Plate 3: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1900

3.1.5 **Planning application, 1915:** this block plan was submitted as part of a planning application by Mr J. H. Hodgson, then tenant of Salthouse Farm (CRO(W) SRDMA/3/4/162 1915; Plate 4). The plan shows that the road to the west side of the farm had been rerouted by this point and now lies much further to the west than it did before, to the west side of what at the time was called 'Salthouse Cottage'

(now replaced with a modern house called 'Colsberg'). The line of the old road is still evident as a field boundary.

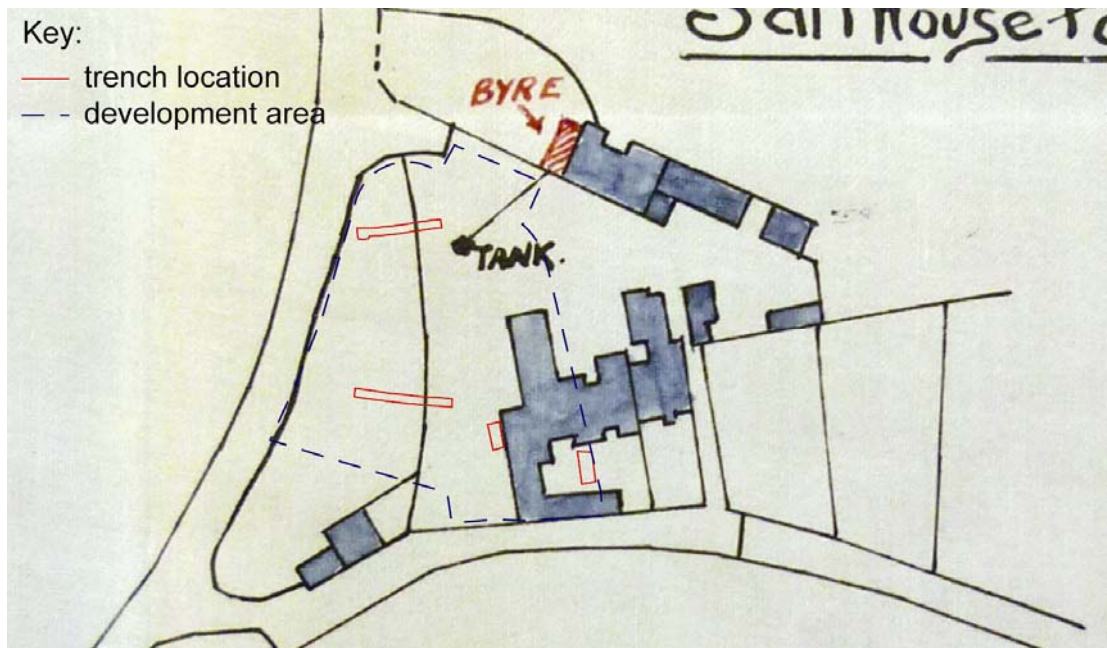


Plate 4: Block plan of 1915

3.1.6 **Ordnance Survey, 1924:** the former road line is more clearly shown on this map, as a pair of parallel field boundaries, although the area between is shown as mixed woodland.

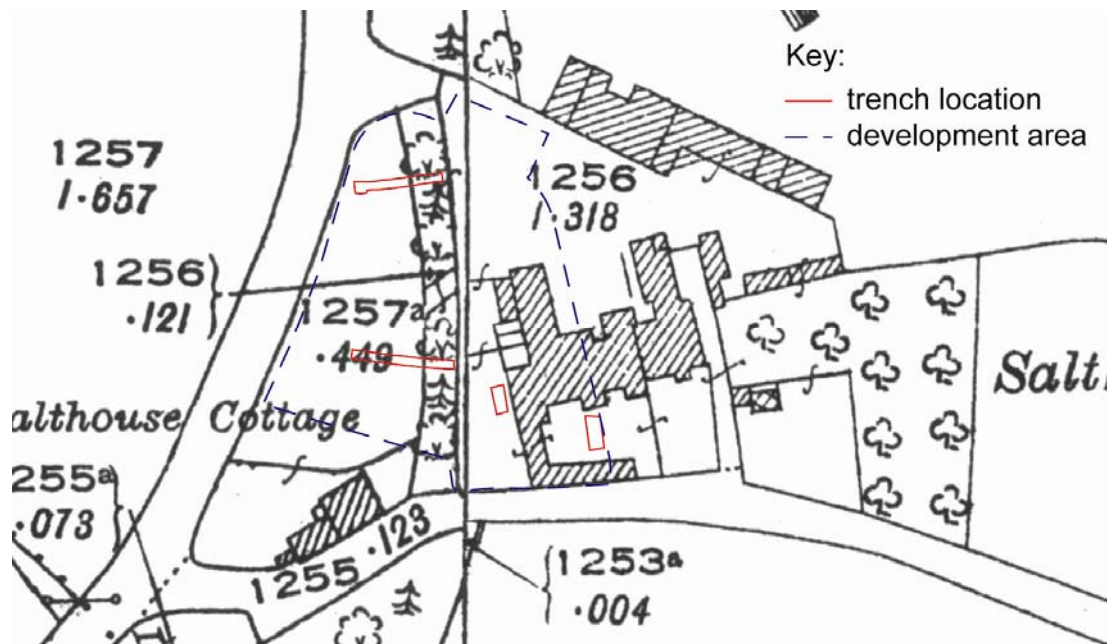


Plate 5: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1924

3.1.7 **Ordnance Survey 1992:** the former road line has by this date essentially been lost, and a new building has been constructed across it, although its line is still essentially marked by a field boundary.

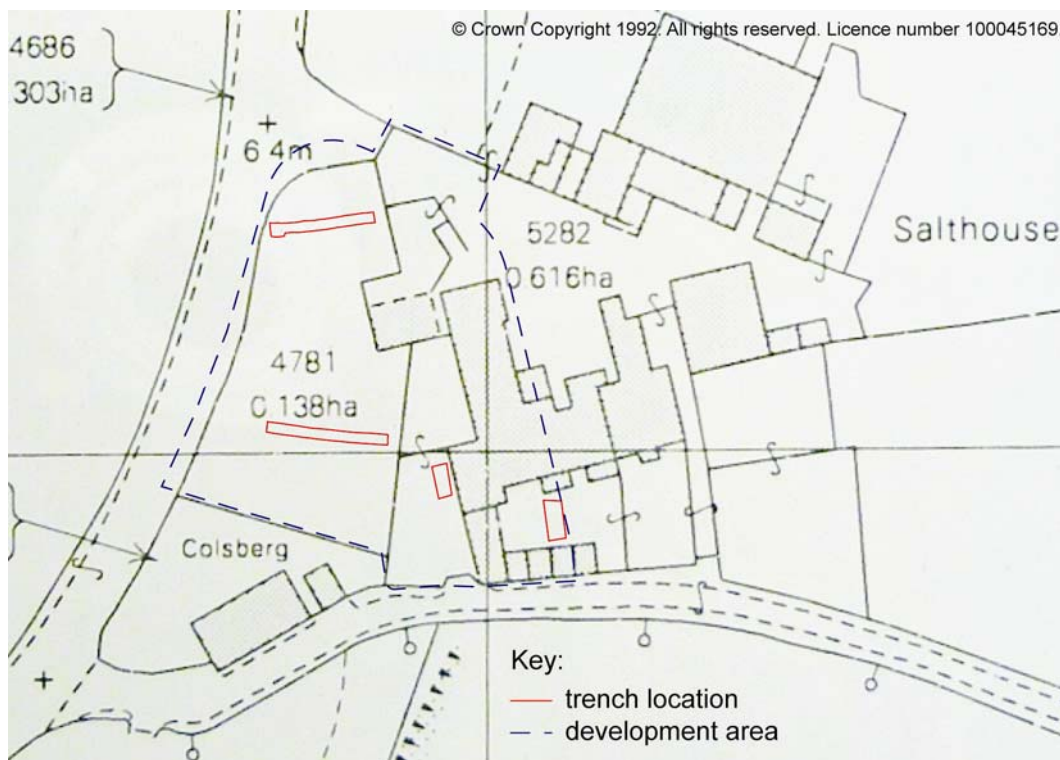


Plate 6: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1992

3.2 Site History

3.2.1 **Prehistoric Period (c11,000 BC – 1st century AD):** while there is some limited evidence for activity in the county in the period immediately following the last Ice Age, this is typically found in the southernmost part on the north side of Morecambe Bay. Excavations of a small number of cave sites have found the remains of animal species common at the time but now extinct in this country and artefacts of Late Upper Palaeolithic type (Young 2002). The county was also clearly inhabited during the following period, the Mesolithic (c8,000 – 4,000 BC), as large numbers of artefacts of this date have been discovered during field walking and eroding from sand dunes along the west coast, especially associated with the raised beach at Eskmeals, and on the uplands areas around the Eden Valley (Cherry and Cherry 2002). Lithic finds of Mesolithic date and probably later have also been discovered in the area around Haverigg (Cherry and Cherry 1987, 6-7).

3.2.2 In the following period, the Neolithic (c4,000 – 2,500 BC), large scale monuments such as burial mounds and stone circles begin to appear in the region and one of the most recognisable tool types of this period, the polished stone axe, is found in large numbers across the county, having been manufactured at Langdale to the north-west of Kendal (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 45). An example of an axe of this type was found near Lowscales Farm in Millom Rural parish in 1824 (Cross 1939, 284). During the Bronze Age (c2,500 – 600 BC) monuments, particularly those thought to be ceremonial in nature, become more common still, and it is likely that settlement sites thought to belong to the Iron Age have their origins in this period. These are, however, not well represented in the immediate area around Millom, although the stone circle at Lacra is considered to belong to this period (Dixon and Fell 1949). Stray finds of Bronze Age date have been found in the region, however (although none are recorded within the study area), including a burial urn found at Beck Farm and stone axe-hammers from fields at Fenwick (Cross 1939, 283-284). Sites that can be specifically dated to the Iron Age (c600 BC – 1st century AD) are in general very rare and there are none recorded in close proximity to the site. There is, however, likely to have been a considerable overlap between the end of the Iron Age and the beginning of the Romano-British period; it is evident that in this part of the country, initially at least, the Roman invasion had a minimal impact on the native population in rural areas (Philpott 2006, 73-74).

3.2.3 Romano-British to Early Medieval Period: (1st century AD – 11th century AD): there are no known sites of Roman date within the study area or the local environs, but two important finds of Roman date are recorded. A hoard comprising ‘two great urns full of Roman silver coins’ was reputedly found in the grounds of Millom castle in 1759 (Shotter 1982, 198) but no other details are known. This find, if accurate, is potentially significant as coins of high value (usually gold) were typically used ‘to pay senior staff in the Roman army and administration’ (Shotter and White 2009, 10). In addition a piece red sandstone inscribed with the letters ‘ANTEF’ was discovered during renovation work at the nearby Parish Church of the Holy Trinity (Warriner 1931, 120). An examination of this inscription by RG Collingwood concluded that it was likely to be of the later Roman period in date and he suggested that its likely source was the Roman fort at Ravenglass, but that it did not indicate the presence of a Roman site at Millom (*ibid*). However, in combination with the coin hoard the case is perhaps more compelling that there was some form of Roman site at Millom, which was later occupied by the castle and church. This argument is perhaps strengthened by recent research in Furness, which re-emphasised the likelihood of a Roman military site, perhaps at Dalton, and a cross-peninsular Roman road that would have ultimately led to Millom and up the west coast to Ravenglass (Elsworth 2007).

3.2.4 The early medieval period is not well represented in the area in terms of physical archaeological remains, which is a common situation throughout the county. However, two fragments of carved stone cross of early medieval date were also discovered in the church during renovation (Warriner 1931, 119-120). One of these, thought to date to the 10th or 11th century AD, shows a Norse influence seen elsewhere in the region and denoting connections with the Isle of Man and the Irish Sea area (Bailey 1960). Other evidence belonging to this period is very scarce in the area, although local place-names show that many settlements in the region were established before the Norman Conquest. Millom, the largest settlement in the area, seems to derive from an early form of the dative plural of *myln* (mill), and therefore means at or amongst the mills, although it is not recorded until c1180 (Armstrong *et al* 1950, 414). Other settlements in the wider area, such as Kirksanton and Whicham, are listed in the Domesday Book (*op cit*, 415) but the region is on the edge of what was recorded at that time. There is place-name evidence for the existence of a church at an early date in a field known as ‘children’s’ or ‘childrum’ field taken to be a corruption of the Gaelic *Cill-dhruim* meaning ‘ridge of the chapel’ (Sykes 1924, 235).

3.2.5 Medieval Period (11th century AD – 16th century AD): as already mentioned, at least some of the settlements in the vicinity of the site are recorded in the Domesday Book, although apparently not Millom itself (Armstrong *et al* (1950, 414-415) suggest that Millom is listed but as ‘Hougun’, but this idea is typically not now supported (see for example Kenyon 1991, 147-148)). Millom Castle and the Parish Church of the Holy Trinity clearly did exist during the medieval period, and the former evidently comprised a number of elements including a potentially very large deer park, fishponds, perhaps other earthworks, and also the gallows. A Deserted Medieval Village (DMV) for Millom is also recorded, but the actual extent of this is uncertain (Crawford and George 1983, 59). The chronology of Millom castle is not known in detail; a licence to crenellate was granted to John de Huddleston in 1335, but it is possible that some remains on the site relate to an earlier phase (Cowper 1924, 198). It remained the centre of the Hudleston’s property in Millom for several centuries (until their entire estate was sold to the Lowthers of Whitehaven in the mid 18th century (*op cit*, 231)), and underwent several phases of alteration (Cowper 1924). The extant remains of the Parish Church of the Holy Trinity has elements of perhaps 12th to 13th century within its fabric, and has seen continual development since at least that time (Sykes 1924).

3.2.6 A settlement of some form at Salthouse Farm itself certainly existed in the medieval period, although its origins and ownership are uncertain. Saltworks are recorded in the vicinity of Millom belonging to Furness Abbey, Calder Abbey, and St Bees Priory. The earliest of these is recorded at the end of the 12th century, when Adam, son of Henry of Millom, granted a saltworks at Millom to the Priory of St Bees (Wilson 1915, 87). It is not clear where this site was, however, although it is said to be ‘near ‘Slepul’ (an inlet of the Duddon Estuary)’ (McIntire 1942, 7) and so may not be the same place as Salthouse. In 1247 a grange belonging to Furness Abbey, named ‘*Salthaus in Copeland*’, is recorded (Atkinson 1887, 604); although other documents from c1220 may also be recording the same site (Kipling 1961, 59). This site is recorded again in association with Furness in the early 14th century (Atkinson 1886, 174). In 1287 two acres of land were granted by John de Hudleston to Calder Abbey ‘at their existing salt pans at *Sandslof* (presumably on the Duddon Sands)’ (Thorley 2004, 145); this has

been identified as corresponding with a field known as Sandclose (Warriner 1937, 28-29), although there seems to be some confusion in its connection to Salthouse. It is impossible to be certain of how many salt works these references are actually referring to, although Sykes was of the opinion that there were at least three 'within a mile or two' of Millom by the 13th century (1924, 237). What seems likely, based on the place-name at least, is that the salt works owned by Furness Abbey corresponds to that at Salthouse Farm. The present site of the farm and a nearby area of earthworks are thought likely to relate to salt production carried out during this period (Cranstone 2006, 103-104).

3.2.7 Post-medieval Period (16th century AD – present): during the initial part of the post-medieval period there is likely to have been relatively little change in the area, although the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 1530s probably led to an increased level of influence for Millom Castle, which probably acquired Salthouse during this period (see *Section 3.3.8* below). They may also have increased in their manorial control at this time, which might explain the establishment of a gallows, which were probably in use from the medieval period (Wilson 1915, xxvi) but certainly well recorded by the late 17th century (Winchester and Wane 2003, 71). From an early stage the region was affected by the beginnings of what would become the Industrial Revolution. The lords of the manor, based at the castle, established a forge (probably a bloomery forge) on their lands from at least the late 17th century and in the process felling much of their woodland to provide charcoal (*op cit*, 70). The location of this is not known, although it is thought that Furnace Beck, to the east of the castle and north of the site, takes its name from it. However, the acquisition of iron ore and the construction of a 'smithy' is recorded in the early 16th century (Winchester 1983, 87) and so there may well have been an earlier forge. In addition to felling trees for their iron forge the lords of the manor used some of the timber to build a ship (Winchester and Wane 2003, 70), perhaps indicating a wider interest in this industry as well. It was not until the later part of the 19th century, however, with the establishment of a large iron works in Millom, that the present town began to develop (Harris 1966; Hughes 2006). Salthouse was only marginally connected to this development; the railway came to the area in the 1860s (McGowan Gradon 1946), passing close to the site and evidently leading to the reclamation of land along the sea shore. A reservoir for the iron works was formed by a floodgate where Salthouse Pool passed under the railway line, although by the 1950s it was suffering from a lack of maintenance (CRO(B) BDB 47/FILEBOXES/Series T/183 1954-1955) and it is recorded that at times the tide washed 'up the pool far past Salthouse' (Warriner 1937, 45). There are a number of sites of specifically post-medieval date within the study area (although several others undoubtedly continue in use into the post-medieval period), typically relating to industrial activity in the form of quarries and areas of ridge and furrow.

3.2.8 Previous Archaeological Work: previous archaeological work in the vicinity of the site has been relatively limited, apart from the early studies of the church and castle. A more recent investigation of archaeological evidence for salt making along the west Cumbrian coast has been carried out, based largely on documentary evidence and limited field survey (Cranstone 2006). Other fieldwork includes the building recording of a former Methodist chapel (Greenlane Archaeology 2006), and a range of excavation and monitoring projects to the north of Millom Castle in the probable area of the former deer park (LUAU 1995; OA North 2006; Headland Archaeology 2008), none of which revealed any archaeological remains of great significance although a possible longhouse was identified (LUAU 1995). A watching brief carried out to the north of Salthouse Farm in a field adjacent to the site of the gallows recorded no archaeological finds or features during the course of this work (Field Archaeology Specialists 2009).

3.3 Conclusion

3.3.1 The desk-based assessment carried out by Greenlane Archaeology (2010) shows that there is evidence for human activity in the general area from at least the Mesolithic; although closer to the site it is not until the Romano-British period that remains become evident. There is certainly evidence that the area around Millom Castle and the parish church has been occupied for a considerable time, but documentary evidence and the standing remains relate to the medieval period onwards. It is apparent that Salthouse Farm has medieval origins, initially probably associated with Furness Abbey but later with the Millom Castle estate, but the exact details of any salt works on the site are uncertain.

3.3.2 The map regression shows that the arrangement of the buildings at Salthouse Farm was fairly well established by the time the Ordnance Survey mapping was produced for the area in 1867. Later maps show that it saw relatively minimal subsequent alteration, although it is potentially of interest that the line of the road to the west of the farm was moved further west between 1900 and 1915.

4. Fieldwork Results

4.1 Evaluation

4.1.1 **Trench 1:** a large stone-filled field drain (**103**) ran east/west along the length of the trench, with a north/south aligned junction at its west end (Plate 7 and Plate 8). There was a small, heavily rooted pit (**106**) of unknown function located a short distance to the north west of this junction (Plate 9). Both of these features were apparently sealed by a layer of subsoil (**102**; which was below the topsoil (**101**)), and cut into a lower layer of subsoil (**107**). Pit **106** was also into the top of the natural (**108**), while in general the drain (**103**) sat on top of this. Another drain (**104**), which appeared to contain smaller pebbles within its fill and continued the line of drain **103** (Plate 10), was also cut into the upper subsoil layer at the west end of the trench and slightly into the underlying natural. A modern live service trench, that contained a clayey fill and was located immediately below the topsoil, also cut across the trench at the east end; this was not examined in any further detail. Another live service was detected further to the east of the trench and it is possible that these services originally followed the line of the old road, which is shown on some of the earlier maps of the site, before it was relocated further to the west sometime between 1900 and 1915 (e.g. Plate 3 and Plate 4) as their positions match those in Trench 2. There was, however, no evidence of a road surface, which was either very insubstantially built, perhaps amounting to little more than a dirt track, or else had been entirely removed out once it fell out of use. The excavation of a large sondage across the centre of the trench revealed that the underlying clay natural (**108**) was present throughout at a depth of approximately 0.7m below the current ground surface, with the base of the drain (**103**) sat on top of it, and no further features apparently cut into it.



Plate 7 (left): Trench 1 viewed from the east

Plate 8 (right): Trench 1 viewed from the west



Plate 9 (left): Pit cut 106

Plate 10 (right): Gravel filled drain 104

4.1.2 **Trench 2:** this trench was relatively featureless (Plate 11 and Plate 12). The topsoil (**201**) and subsoil (**202**) were removed to reveal the natural (**203**) at a depth of 0.7m. A live service trench, which was not investigated but had a gravelly fill, cut across the east end of the trench (visible in the foreground of Plate 11), possibly following the alignment of the old road (as noted above; see *Section 4.1.1*), and a water pipe (which had no obvious cut for an associated trench and so may have been bored rather than laid) was exposed at the west end of the trench (see Figure 2). There was a shallow pit (**204**) located towards the centre of the trench, although this may have been little more than an undulation in the underlying clay natural (**203**).



Plate 11 (left): Trench 2 viewed from the east

Plate 12 (right): Trench 2 viewed from the west

4.1.3 **Trench 3:** two layers of sandy clay, perhaps waste material derived from salt manufacture (**303** and **306**), were exposed within this trench below the bedding material (**302**) for the concrete floor (**301**). The trench was heavily disturbed at the south end where a ceramic water pipe (**304**) cut across. This was filled by an orange sandy-clay deposit (**305**) although the excavation of a sondage at this end in order to investigate these features and establish their depth revealed that it had evidently been re-cut or modified to house a second water pipe at a slightly different angle, the fill of which (**307**) contained a number of finds including an almost complete skeleton of a juvenile sheep. Due to the evidently active nature of these pipes, the risk of flooding and contamination, and the difficulty of excavating beyond them it was not possible to investigate the deposits in this trench in further detail and underlying natural was not therefore encountered.



Plate 13: Trench 3 viewed from the north showing deposit 303 and linear cut 304

4.1.4 **Trench 4:** the removal of the concrete surface (**401**) of the courtyard revealed an underlying rubble deposit (**402**) over a thin pale grey silt (**403**), below which was a very deep deposit of sand (**404**), which was found, through the excavation of a sondage at the north end of the trench, to extend to over 1m below the base of deposit **403** (see Plate 14 and Plate 15). While essentially uniform in character and quite firm, the upper part was more gravelly and slightly darker and there was a thin dark band of mineralised dividing it from the lower level, which was cleaner and paler in colour but contained further thin bands of mineralised material, most of which were essentially horizontal although one on the east side ran vertically for a short distance (Plate 15). Due to the extreme depth of the sondage it was not possible to examine the lower part of this deposit; its general uniformity and apparent sterility would suggest that it is natural, although its formation through repeated dumping of waste sand as part of the salt making process cannot be discounted (see Section 5.2).

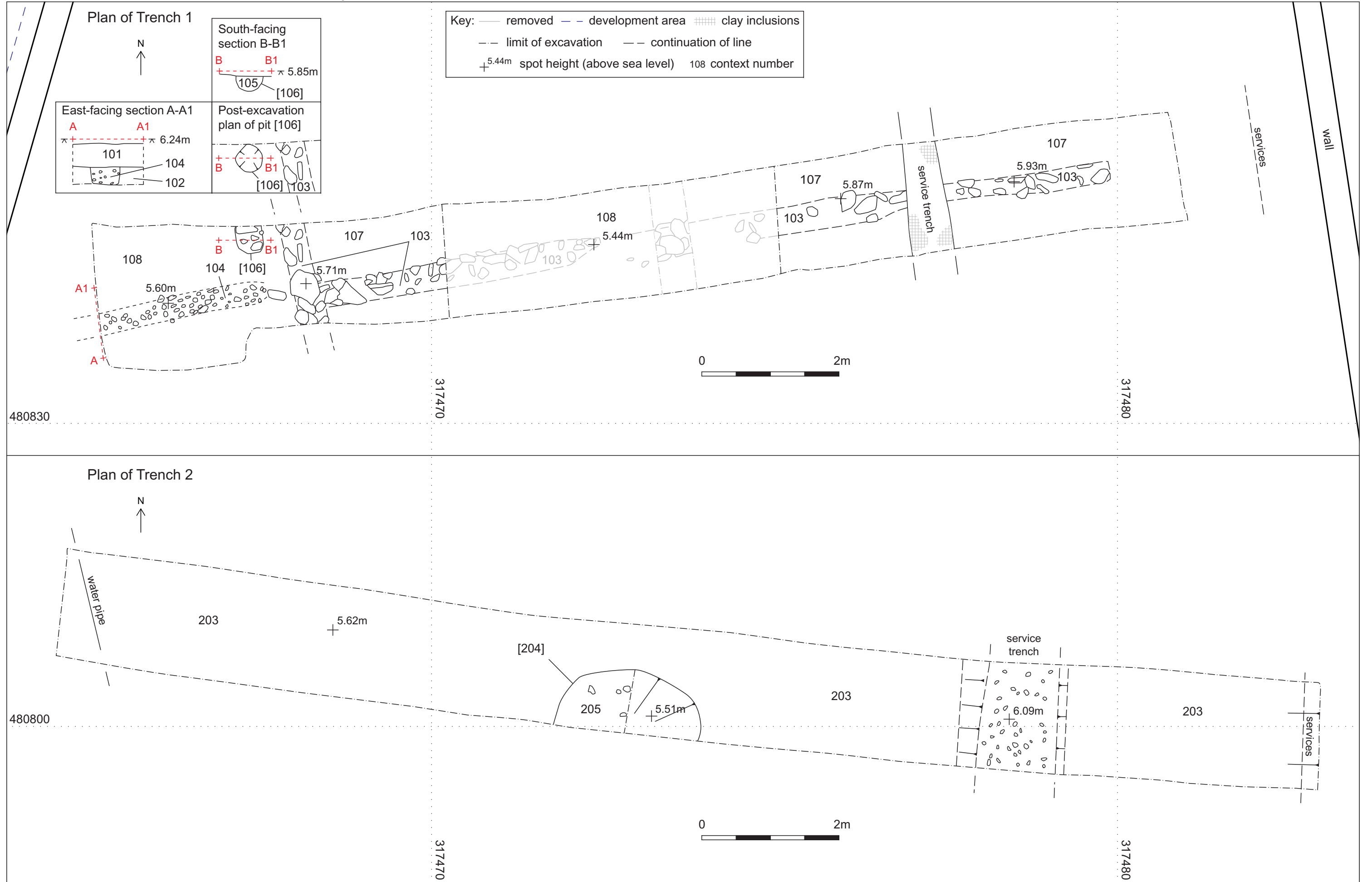


Figure 2: Plans and sections of Trench 1 and plan of Trench 2



Figure 3: Plans of Trench 3 and Trench 4



Plate 14 (left): Trench 4 viewed from the south showing silt deposit 403

Plate 15 (right): Sondage at the north end of Trench 4 showing sand deposit 404

4.2 Finds

4.2.1 A total of 239 finds were recovered during the evaluation, and a full list of these is presented in *Appendix 3*. This includes 102 fragments of animal bone all of which were recovered from the articulated sheep skeleton which was buried in Trench 3 and has essentially been treated as a single find.

4.2.2 The majority of the finds were post-medieval in date, typically of domestic character, and potentially ranging in date from the 16th to the early 20th century, including black- and brown-glazed red earthenware, possible Cistercian ware, clay tobacco pipe, red and white slip coated buff-coloured earthenware, white salt-glazed stoneware, and white earthenware. The glass bottle from the topsoil in Trench 2 (**201**) was relatively late in date and perhaps dates from as late the early 20th century. There was some industrial residue (possibly slag?) and haematite, a piece of slate, and a few iron finds, none of which are closely dateable, although the former might suggest iron working was taking place nearby (although haematite does occur naturally in the local area). The fill (**205**) of the shallow pit (**204**) in Trench 2 was of more interest in that it contained a large amount of marine shell, which probably represents some sort of domestic waste. The associated finds from this feature suggest it was post-medieval in date (see *Appendix 3*).

4.2.3 A number of finds were recovered that may have some connection to salt manufacture, although comparative examples are difficult to find. Several large fragments of sand-formed red earthenware tile, some very high-fired, which are not closely dateable (they are likely to be post-medieval by association with other finds, but could easily be medieval or even Roman), were recovered from the subsoil in Trench 1 (**102**) as well as from the bedding material (**302**) for the concrete floor and additional fill (**307**) of the drain cut in Trench 3. Again, associated finds from these contexts might suggest a post-medieval date. These are highly unusual in the area and appear too thick and rough to have been floor or roof tiles. One possibility is that they were utilised as a form of briquetage, used to prop the lead pan, in which brine was boiled as part of the salt making process, over a hearth (see Ridgeway 2000, 150).

4.2.4 Of the metal finds only the piece from deposit **305** in Trench 3 is potentially of interest; it appears to be the flat head of a rake or hoe with a wrapped hafting (Plate 16), and as such could have had a number of uses. It is also possible, however, that it represents the damaged remains of an iron ladle used to remove the 'bittern' (a waste material of calcium and magnesium salts produced during salt manufacture, which could be used but was often discarded (Taylor 1975, 16)) as illustrated by Brownrigg

in 1748 (Plate 17; labelled 'Fig. 6'). An inventory of tools at the Bransty salt pans, dated 1703, also includes a large number of items that could be similar in form to this including 'Three Shovells with Iron Mouths' and two different types of rake although it is not recorded if these had any iron components (Tyson 1989).



Plate 16: Flat head of a rake or hoe with a wrapped hafting recovered from deposit 303

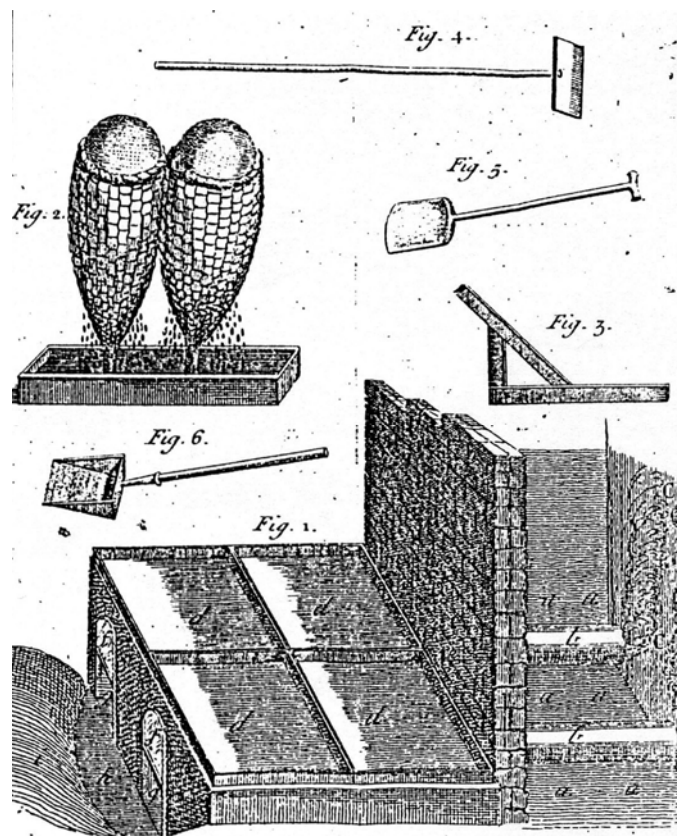


Plate 17: Tools used in association with saltworks in the early 18th century (as illustrated in Brownrigg 1748)

4.2.5 A lump of apparent industrial residue recovered from the fill of pit **106** is also of interest as it seems probable to have derived from salt making. Without more detailed comparison and scientific assessment it is difficult to be certain, but deposits of what may be a similar 'well-aerated material' were present at the salt works at St Monance in Fife. These were initially thought to be 'bitterns' (see *Section*

4.2.4 above) or the '*solidified frothy scum formed when egg white or blood was added to remove impurities from the briney [sic] liquor prior to boiling*' (Lewis 1989, 367). However, analysis showed that it actually comprised a number of mineral crystals and clays, and was thought to have resulted from the removal of insoluble salts from the sides of the metal pans (*op cit*, 368).

4.2.6 Evidence for medieval activity on the site included three smallish fragments of a partially reduced sandy ware and two abraded fragments of a grittier sandy ware which were recovered from the subsoil in Trench 1 (**102**) and 2 (**202**). These fragments come from a group of closely-related sandy fabrics, which are thought to have been introduced during the 12th century and dominate late 13th and 14th century assemblages in the region (Bradley and Miller 2009, 663-664).

5. Discussion

5.1 Trench 1 and 2

5.1.1 The results of the evaluation were relatively negative in this area, suggesting that there is relatively minimal potential for significant archaeological remains to be present within the paddock to the west of the site. The grouped arrangement of field drains in Trench 1 (**103** and **104**) are clearly relatively late in date as they cut through a subsoil (**107**) of post-medieval date. These are likely to represent field drains (albeit unusual in not being cut into the natural to any great depth, if at all, and sealed by an upper layer of subsoil, indicating a relatively deep accumulation of material in this area) although stone built drains are known in association with post-medieval salt works where they were important in reducing the dangerous build up of steam by draining away waste water (Lewis 1989, 367). The small pit in Trench 1 (**106**) and the larger pit in Trench 2 (**204**) are both evidently post-medieval in date, and only **106** is noteworthy on account of the lump of industrial residue recovered from its fill (see *Section 4.2.3* above). Remarkably, there was no evidence for the road, which is shown on the early maps crossing this area before it was moved west to its present location (see Plate 1 to Plate 5), although it is notable that its line seems to have been followed by two rows of electricity cables. Presumably the road was therefore a very insubstantial structure presumably little more than a dirt track or else was completely removed when it fell out of use. Most of the finds from the paddock area were post-medieval or modern in date, but there was also evidence for medieval activity in the vicinity. Unfortunately, the medieval pottery was residual in the subsoil of Trenches 1 (**102**) and 2 (**202**) and no significant archaeological finds or features were otherwise found.

5.2 Trench 3 and 4

5.2.1 Trench 4 contained no obvious features other than a thick layer of sand (**404**), and while this is of interest because of the manner in which salt was produced at medieval 'salterns' and has been identified extending to a depth of well over 1m (Cope-Faulkner forthcoming), its compact nature, lack of finds, and lack of evident layering suggests that it is entirely natural in origin. The lack of comparable deposits in Trench 1 and 2 could be explained by examining the relative heights of these: the lowest point of the sand (**404**) encountered was at 5.62m OD, which is the same height as the top of the natural in Trench 2, and slightly higher than the natural in Trench 1 (which varied from at 5.44m OD to 5.6m OD). The sand could quite easily have accumulated, whether as part of a natural process or artificially on top of the natural clay. Natural deposits were not reached in Trench 3 on account of the presence of active water pipes and the discovery of two layers of apparent archaeological significance cut by this (**303** and **306**). These deposits are considerably more likely to have derived from salt manufacture on the site, although dating is difficult. Their shallow depth and the presence of the iron 'rake' or ladle in **303** suggests a post-medieval date is likely.

5.3 Conclusion

5.3.1 It would appear that there is minimal evidence for any significant archaeological features or deposits being present in the paddock area to the west of the standing buildings, although finds, such as tile fragments, potentially indicate that material relating to post-medieval salt working was deposited here. In addition, a small amount of medieval pottery was also present, but this was discovered in very mixed contexts. Trench 3 seems to be the only one in which *in situ* deposits perhaps relating to salt manufacture were revealed, albeit heavily truncated by water pipes. Again, pieces of ceramic tile were also recovered from this area, although their position, immediately below the concrete floor and probably forming a bedding layer for it, suggests that they were brought to this location from elsewhere. Nevertheless, this seems to indicate that the area with the highest potential is around Trench 3 and perhaps Trench 4, most likely underneath the standing buildings, in which case there is likely to have been some truncation.

5.3.2 The various finds recovered during the evaluation that perhaps related to salt manufacture on the site are of interest, in particular because they appear to be post-medieval in date (see *Section 4.2.3* to *4.2.5*). The general lack of documentary information about salt manufacture at the site, which essentially only comprises a single reference from the 13th century and the place-name (see *Section 3.2.6*), does

not reveal the point at which it stopped at Salthouse (or, indeed, when it started). A single reference to the household at Millom castle purchasing four quarters of salt in 1513 (Winchester 1983, 89) does not state where it was purchased from. It seems likely, on the basis of activity elsewhere along the Cumbrian coast and in North Lancashire, that salt was being manufactured in the Millom area in the 17th and probably 18th century. There are copious records of salt works operating along the Cumbria coast between Whitehaven and Piel Island in the late 17th century letters of the Lowther family (Hainsworth 1983), and the industry in the region during the post-medieval period has been commented on elsewhere (Martin 1975; Tyson 1988; Martin 1994; Cranstone 2006). Brownrigg's 1748 description of the manufacturing process indicates that a number of coastal salt works were still active in the 18th century, although the trade in general appears to have been in decline by this time, with the last working site at Branstay near Whitehaven closing in 1770 (Walsh 1991, 39). Similarly a number of sites were operational in North Lancashire at the same time (Taylor 1975), but the majority of this activity had effectively ceased by the end of the 18th century (*op cit*, 19). This seems to have been part of a more widespread decline, although this did not affect every area in an even manner (Whatley 1982, 90). Taking this into consideration, it therefore seems highly likely that the site was being used to manufacture salt from the post-dissolution period to perhaps the 18th century, perhaps latterly as a result of the influence of the Lowther family. This evidence, seen in combination with the results of the evaluation, suggests even more strongly that the site was being used for salt manufacture in the post-medieval period, although the results of the building recording and map regression would seem to suggest that it must have gone out of use before the range of farm buildings present on the site was constructed, which had certainly taken place by the early 19th century (Greenlane Archaeology 2010).

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Appendix 1: Project Design

SALTHOUSE FARM, SALTHOUSE ROAD, MILLOM, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Evaluation Project Design



Client: Neil Price Ltd

Planning application number: 04/08/2030

NGR: SD 175 808

January 2011

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Following the submission of a planning application (Ref. 04/08/2030) by Neil Price Ltd (hereafter 'the client') for the demolition of a group of farm buildings and construction of new dwellings at Salthouse Farm, Salthouse Road, Millom, Cumbria (NGR SD 175 808) a condition was placed for an archaeological desk-based assessment and building recording. This was completed by Greenlane Archaeology in 2010. The desk-based assessment confirmed the known status of Salthouse Farm as the probable site of a salt works of medieval date, and also revealed that the surrounding area is relatively rich in medieval and potentially earlier remains, particularly on account of the nearby castle and parish church, the former of which was associated with Salthouse Farm in the post-medieval period (Greenlane Archaeology 2010).

1.1.2 After discussions with Jeremy Parsons, Historic Environment Officer at Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service, based on the results of the earlier desk-based assessment, it was determined that the site should be subject to an archaeological evaluation in order to determine the extent of any below-ground remains of archaeological significance. This was to comprise the excavation of evaluation trenches amounting to 50m² in the undeveloped paddock area on the west side of the site, and 25-30m² on the site of the farm buildings, which, as these are still standing, will be in the open courtyard areas.

1.2 Greenlane Archaeology

1.2.1 Greenlane Archaeology is a private limited company based in Ulverston, Cumbria, and was established in 2005 (Company No. 05580819). Its directors, Jo Dawson and Daniel Elsworth, have a combined total of over 18 years continuous professional experience working in commercial archaeology, principally in the north of England and Scotland. Greenlane Archaeology is committed to a high standard of work, and abides by the Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) Code of Conduct. The evaluation will be carried out according to the Standards and Guidance of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IfA 2008).

1.3 Project Staffing

1.3.1 The project will be managed and supervised by **Dan Elsworth (MA (Hons), AIfA)** with suitably qualified assistance. Daniel graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 1998 with an honours degree in Archaeology, and began working for the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit, which became Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) in 2001. Daniel ultimately became a project officer, and for over six and a half years worked on excavations and surveys, building investigations, desk-based assessments, and conservation and management plans. These have principally taken place in the North West, and Daniel has a particular interest in the archaeology of the area. He has recently managed a number of archaeological excavation projects in the region including a large excavation in Barrow-in-Furness (Greenlane Archaeology 2007a), evaluation in Milnthorpe (Greenlane Archaeology 2008a), a watching brief in Kendal (Greenlane Archaeology 2008b), and most recently a series of assessments at 130-136 Stricklandgate, Kendal (Greenlane Archaeology 2008c; 2008d; 2008e). He has also directly supervised evaluations and excavations in various places including Ulverston (Greenlane Archaeology 2006a; 2006b) and Kendal (Greenlane Archaeology 2007b).

1.3.2 All artefacts will be processed by Greenlane Archaeology, and it is envisaged that they will initially be assessed by Jo Dawson, who will fully assess any of post-medieval date; medieval pottery will be assessed by Tom Mace. Finds of earlier date will be assessed by specialist sub-contractors as appropriate. CHES will be notified of any other specialists, other than those named, who Greenlane Archaeology wishes to engage, before any specialist contracts are awarded, and the approval of CHES will be sought.

1.3.3 Environmental samples, and faunal or human remains will be processed by Greenlane Archaeology. It is envisaged that any environmental samples would be assessed by Scott Timpany at

Headland Archaeology, human remains by Malin Holst at York Osteoarchaeology, and animal bones by Andy Bates or Steve Rowland at Oxford Archaeology North. Other remains, such as industrial material, will be assessed by specialist sub-contractors as appropriate and CHES will be informed and their approval will be sought for these arrangements.

2. Objectives

2.1 Archaeological Evaluation

2.1.1 To excavate a series of evaluation trenches or test pits covering a total area of at least 75m². These will assess the presence or absence of features of archaeological interest within the area, their extent, date, nature, and significance.

2.2 Report

2.2.1 To produce a report detailing the results of the evaluation, that will present the results of the evaluation, and assess the potential of the site and significance of the remains.

2.3 Archive

2.3.1 Produce a full archive of the results of the evaluation.

3. Methodology

3.3 Archaeological Evaluation

3.3.1 A total of at least 75m² of evaluation trenching is required, comprising 50m² in the paddock area to the west of the farm buildings, and 25-30m² within the area of the buildings. Taking into account the results of the desk-based assessment and the nature of the site, where the farm buildings are still standing, it is envisaged that this will be covered by excavating two trenches each approximately 15m long and 1.7m wide (a standard excavator bucket width) within the paddock area to the west of the standing buildings and two trenches approximately 10m long by 1.7m wide in the open courtyard areas associated with the standing buildings, until significant archaeological deposits or the natural geology are reached, or to a depth of 1.2m. Where possible, these trenches will target areas identified during the desk-based assessment and site visit as having the greatest archaeological potential and the least likelihood of constraints, as determined by the results of the previous desk-based assessment, and following consultation with CHES – a plan showing the proposed locations will be submitted. It is anticipated that the evaluation will take two days on site with two archaeologists (totalling four person days).

3.3.2 The evaluation methodology, which is based on Greenlane Archaeology's excavation manual (Greenlane Archaeology 2007c), will be as follows:

- The site will be checked with a Cable Avoiding Tool (CAT) in order to establish the presence of live electrical services. Any existing service plans held by the client will also be consulted in order to identify the presence of other services;
- The trenches will be excavated with regard to the position of any services, focussing on the areas of high archaeological interest or potential, and avoiding areas which are likely to have been severely damaged or truncated by later activity, unless they are considered to have a high potential;
- The overburden (which is likely to largely comprise relatively modern make-up deposits) will be removed by machine under the supervision of an archaeologist until the first deposit beneath it is reached;

- All deposits below the overburden will be examined by hand in a stratigraphic manner, using shovels, mattocks, or trowels as appropriate for the scale. Deposits will only be sampled, rather than completely removed, below the first identified level of archaeological interest, unless specified by the CHES, with the intension of preserving as much *in situ* as possible;
- The position of any features, such as ditches, pits, or walls, will be recorded and where necessary these will be investigated in order to establish their full extent, date, and relationship to any other features. Negative features such as ditches or pits will be examined by sample excavation, typically half of a pit or similar feature and approximately 10% of a linear feature;
- All recording of features will include hand-drawn plans and sections, typically at a scale of 1:20 and 1:10, respectively, and photographs in both 35mm colour print and colour digital format;
- All deposits, trenches, drawings and photographs will be recorded on Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;
- All finds will be recovered during the evaluation for further assessment as far as is practically and safely possible. Should significant quantities of finds be encountered an appropriate sampling strategy will be devised;
- All faunal remains will also be recovered by hand during the evaluation, but where it is considered likely that there is potential for the bones of fish or small mammals to be present appropriate volumes of samples will be taken for sieving;
- Deposits that are considered likely to have, for example, preserved environmental remains, industrial residues, and/or material suitable for scientific dating will be sampled. Bulk samples of between 20 and 60 litres in volume (or 100% of smaller features), depending on the size and potential of the deposit, will be collected from stratified undisturbed deposits and will particularly target negative features (e.g. gullies, pits and ditches) and occupation deposits such as hearths and floors. An assessment of the environmental potential of the site will be undertaken through the examination of samples of suitable deposits by specialist sub-contractors (see *Section 1.3.3* above), who will examine the potential for further analysis. All samples will be processed using methods appropriate to the preservation conditions and the remains present;
- Any human remains discovered during the evaluation will be left *in situ*, and, if possible, covered. CHES will be immediately informed as will the local coroner. Should it be considered necessary to remove the remains this will require a Home Office licence, under Section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857, which will be applied for should the need arise;
- Any objects defined as 'treasure' by the Treasure Act of 1996 (HMSO 1996) will be immediately reported to the local coroner and secured stored off-site, or covered and protected on site if immediate removal is not possible;
- Each evaluation trench will be backfilled following excavation although it is not envisaged that any further reinstatement to its original condition will be carried out.

3.3.3 Should any significant archaeological deposits be encountered during the evaluation these will immediately be brought to the attention of CHES so that the need for further work can be confirmed. Any additional work and ensuing costs will be agreed with the client and according to the requirements of CHES, and subject to a variation to this project design.

3.4 Report

3.4.1 The results of the evaluation will be compiled into a report, which will include the following sections:

- A front cover including the appropriate national grid reference (NGR) and planning application number;

- A concise non-technical summary of results, including the date the project was undertaken and by whom;
- Acknowledgements;
- Project Background;
- Methodology, including a description of the work undertaken;
- Summary historic and archaeological background to the site as necessary, taken from the previous desk-based assessment;
- Results of the evaluation including descriptions of any deposits identified, their extent, form, and potential date, and an assessment of any finds or environmental remains recovered during the evaluation;
- Discussion of the results including an assessment of the significance of any archaeological remains present within the study area, areas of further archaeological potential, areas in which further work is recommended, and appropriate types of further work;
- Bibliography, including both primary and secondary sources;
- Illustrations at appropriate scales including:
 - a site location plan related to the national grid;
 - a plan showing the location of the evaluation trenches in relation to nearby structures and the local landscape;
 - copies of early maps, plans, drawings, photographs and other illustrations of elements of the site as appropriate to aid the understanding of the results of the evaluation;
 - a plan showing the position of the evaluation trenches;
 - plans and sections of the evaluation trenches showing any features of archaeological interest;
 - photographs of the evaluation, including both detailed and general shots of features of archaeological interest and the trenches;
 - illustrations of individual artefacts as appropriate.

3.5 Archive

3.5.1 The archive, comprising the drawn, written, and photographic record of the evaluation, formed during the project, will be stored by Greenlane Archaeology until it is completed. Upon completion it will be deposited with the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness (CRO(B)). The archive will be compiled according to the standards and guidelines of the IFA (Brown 2007), and in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). In addition details of the project will be submitted to the Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations (OASIS) scheme. This is an internet-based project intended to improve the flow of information between contractors, local authority heritage managers and the general public.

3.5.2 A copy of the report will be deposited with the archive at the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness, one will be supplied to the client, and within two months of the completion of fieldwork, three copies will be provided for the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER). In addition, Greenlane Archaeology will retain one copy, and digital copies will be deposited with the NMR and OASIS scheme as required.

3.5.3 The client will be encouraged to transfer ownership of the finds to a suitable museum. Any finds recovered during the evaluation will be offered to an appropriate museum, most likely either the Folk

Museum in Millom or the Dock Museum in Barrow-in-Furness, depending on the nature of the finds, conservation requirements, and available and suitable storage space. If no suitable repository can be found the finds may have to be discarded, and in this case as full a record as possible would be made of them beforehand.

4. Work timetable

4.1 Greenlane Archaeology will be available to commence the project on **10th January 2011**, or at another date convenient to the client. The project will comprise the following tasks:

- **Task 1:** submission of proposed evaluation trench location plan to Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service for approval;
- **Task 2:** archaeological evaluation;
- **Task 3:** post-excavation work on archaeological evaluation, including processing of finds and production of draft report and illustrations;
- **Task 4:** feedback, editing and production of final report and archive.

5. Other matters

5.1 Access

5.1.1 Access to the site for the evaluation will be organised through co-ordination with the client and/or their agent(s).

5.2 Health and Safety

5.2.1 Greenlane Archaeology carries out risk assessments for all of its projects and abides by its internal health and safety policy and relevant legislation. Health and safety is always the foremost consideration in any decision-making process.

5.3 Insurance

5.3.1 Greenlane Archaeology has professional indemnity insurance to the value of **£500,000**. Details of this can be supplied if requested.

5.4 Environmental and Ethical Policy

5.4.1 Greenlane Archaeology has a strong commitment to environmentally and ethically sound working practices. Its office is supplied with 100% renewable energy by Good Energy, uses ethical telephone and internet services supplied by the Phone Co-op, is even decorated with organic paint, and has floors finished with recycled vinyl tiles. In addition, the company uses the services of The Co-operative Bank for ethical banking, Naturesave for environmentally-conscious insurance, and utilises public transport wherever possible. Greenlane Archaeology is also committed to using local businesses for services and materials, thus benefiting the local economy, reducing unnecessary transportation, and improving the sustainability of small and rural businesses.

6. Bibliography

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Appendix 2: Summary Context List

Context	Type	Trench	Description	Interpretation
101	Deposit	1	Friable, dark greyish-brown, sandy-silt, with thin lenses of sandy off white to buff gravel and a lens of orangey clay towards the west end of the trench, but otherwise sparse inclusions. Extends beyond the limit of excavation. <0.20m thick.	Topsoil in the field to the west of the farmhouse.
102	Deposit	1	Friable, mid-dark greyish-brown, sandy-silt, with sparse sub-angular pebbles (<1%). Below the topsoil 101 ; up to 0.23m thick.	Subsoil layer encountered in the field to the west of the farmhouse.
103	Structure	1	Stone drain, running east/west along the centre of Trench 1, with a north/south junction at the west end. The drain is capped by large angular and sub-angular stones up to 0.4m x 0.12m on top of large sub-rounded cobbles and boulders, forming a centre trough, approximately 0.15m wide, filled by firm reddish-brown clay. In some places it had slate along the bottom.	Stone drain, apparently sealed by the subsoil 102 .
104	Structure	1	A near vertical sided linear cut feature, aligned approximately east/west, filled with sub-rounded pebbles (<0.06m) in a matrix similar to the subsoil 102 . The fill of this feature was below the topsoil 101 and the feature itself apparently cut the subsoil 102 . It was located beyond the junction of the stone drain 103 at the west end of Trench 1. It was very shallow when it was exposed in plan at the base of the trench, but was approximately 0.30m deep when it was viewed in the east-facing section at the west end of the trench.	Gravel/pebble filled land drain.
105	Deposit	1	Friable, mid-greyish brown silt matrix, similar to subsoil 102 , with 25% large angular stones and 20% sub-rounded limestone cobbles. Roughly 10% comprised a large lump of (?)slag. Below the subsoil 102 and filling cut 106 .	Fill of pit 106 .
106	Cut	1	Sub-rounded / sub-circular cut, with concave sides at approximately 60° to the horizontal and a smooth, slightly concave base. There was a smooth break of slope to the base (see Figure 2). Not truncated. Filled by deposit 105 .	Pit cutting the lower subsoil 107 and sealed by subsoil 102 . It was filled by 106 .
107	Deposit	1	This deposit has a similar description to 102 but was distinguishable by being a slightly more orangey-brown. Between 0.2-0.3m thick.	Lower subsoil.
108	Deposit	1	Firm, off-white, mottled yellow clay, extending across Trench 1.	Natural clay.
201	Deposit	2	Loose, dark brown, sandy-clay, extending across Trench 2, up to 0.2m thick with patches of gravel and some angular slate inclusions (c.5%).	Topsoil layer – probably continuous variation of 101 .

Context	Type	Trench	Description	Interpretation
202	Deposit	2	Firm, dark brown/orange sandy-clay, extending across Trench 2, up to 0.3m thick, with patches of gravel and 2% rounded pebbles.	Subsoil.
203	Deposit	2	Rooted, firm, pale buff to off-white, mottled dark brown, yellow clay, extending across Trench 2.	Natural clay – probably the same as 108 .
204	Cut	2	Very shallow, east/west aligned, oval / sub-rectangular cut, with a flattish base, measuring 2.1 x 0.9m. Filled by 205 .	Shallow pit or undulation in the natural.
205	Deposit	2	Loose, dark brown, sandy/silty clay, with angular cobbles and slate inclusions. Similar to 202 .	Fill of pit 204 .
301	Deposit	3	Very firm, pale grey/white, concrete, with 30% gravel inclusions, up to 0.1m thick, extending across Trench 3.	Concrete floor.
302	Deposit	3	Loose, dark reddish-brown, sandy / gritty clay, with 75% rubble brick and roofing slate and other slate and sandstone inclusions.	Bedding material for the concrete floor 301 .
303	Deposit	3	Loose, mid grey-brown clay-sand, up to 0.3m thick across Trench 3, with 2% gravel inclusions.	Possible waste material from salt manufacture?
304	Cut	3	Linear, east/west aligned cut (measuring 2m east/west by 0.48m north/south) with vertical sides, cutting 303 and 306 .	Cut for ceramic drain.
305	Deposit	3	Loose, mid orangey-brown sand.	Fill of drain cut 304 .
306	Deposit	3	Loose, mid-brown, sandy-clay. Possibly the same as 303 .	Possible waste material from salt manufacture?
307	Deposit	3	Loose, mid grey-brown, silty-clay, c.0.5m wide by 0.7m deep, with 20% angular cobbles.	Additional fill of drain cut 304 .
401	Deposit	4	0.1m thick, very compacted, pale white / grey concrete, extending across Trench 4, with 30% gravel inclusions.	Concrete floor.
402	Deposit	4	Loose, dark red / brown clayey matrix, up to 0.15m thick, with rubble, slate and brick inclusions.	Bedding material for the concrete floor 401 .
403	Deposit	4	Very firm, pale buff / brown silt, up to 0.03m thick.	Natural(?) silt.
404	Deposit	4	Firm to loose, mid orange, sand with 1% gravel; more than 1.1m thick.	Possible natural, with some evidence of varying deposition in section.

Appendix 3: Summary Finds List

Context	Type	Qty	Description	Date range
102	Fe	2	Corroded; bar and curved fragment	Not closely dateable
102	Ceramic building material	4	Sand-formed red earthenware tile fragments - similar to those from 302 and 307	Not closely dateable
102	Ceramic building material	1	Red earthenware curved tile/drain fragment (not sand-formed)	Post-medieval
102	Ceramic building material	1	Brick(?) fragment	Not closely dateable
102	Pottery	4	Brown-glazed red earthenware. Refitting dish rim fragments with striped white-slip decoration x 2, refitting jar(?) base fragments, very high fired, unglazed internally x 2	Late 17 th - 19 th century
102	Pottery	1	Self-glazed buff-coloured earthenware coarseware base fragment	Late 17 th - early 18 th century
102	Pottery	1	Red slip coated buff-coloured earthenware coarseware body fragment	Late 17 th to early 18 th century
102	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed orange earthenware coarseware body fragment, unglazed internally	Late 17 th – 18 th century?
102	Haematite	3	Lumps, possibly relating to industrial activity?	Not closely dateable
102	Pottery	1	Tin-glazed earthenware, abraded blue painted fragment	18 th century?
102	Pottery	1	Porcelain body fragment with blue floral pattern	Mid 18 th – early 19 th century?
102	Pottery	1	Bone china cup base	19 th – 20 th century
102	Pottery	2	White earthenware. Factory-produced slipware fragment, and base with impressed mark '[E]DGE MALKIN' (1873-1903; Kowalski and Kowalski 1999, 181)	19 th – early 20 th century
102	Pottery	1	Creamware bowl rim	Mid 18 th – early 19 th century
102	Clay tobacco pipe	7	5 fragments from a decorated Masonic bowl and two stem fragments with narrowish and medium bores	18 th - early 20 th century?

Context	Type	Qty	Description	Date range
102	Pottery	1	Lightly gritted/sandy ware? Flat base fragment of a vessel with obtuse-angled sides. The fabric has oxidised (orange) margins and surfaces and a reduced (grey) core. Very abraded. Similar to a fragment from 202	Late 12 th - 14 th century
102	Pottery	1	Partially reduced, slightly sandy fabric. Flat base fragment of a vessel with near-vertical sides, with a thin light green glaze applied externally. Similar to fragments from 202	Late 12 th - 14 th century
105	Industrial residue	1	A large lump of vesicular ?slag	Not closely dateable
107	Pottery	1	Creamware plate(?) fragment	Mid 18 th – early 19 th century
107	Pottery	1	Pearlware? Hollow-ware body fragment with blue painted pattern	Mid 18 th – early 19 th century
107	Pottery	2	Cistercian ware? Refitting cup(?) body fragments	16 th to 17 th century?
201	Pottery	2	Black-glazed red earthenware. crock body fragment, and very high fired rim with unusual small pouring lip	Late 17 th to early 20 th century
201	Pottery	1	Pearlware plate base with recessed foot rim	Late 18 th – early 19 th century
201	Pottery	2	White earthenware: 'Willow' transfer-printed pattern hollow-ware fragment, and blue sponge-printed hollow-ware fragment	19 th – early 20 th century
201	Pottery	2	White ironstone(?) refitting plate rim fragments	Mid 19 th – 20 th century
201	Pottery	1	Glazed red earthenware with white slip-coated interior. Pancheon(?) base fragment	19 th to early 20 th century
201	Glass	1	Complete green bottle with crown closure, 'BANK SPRINGS BREWERY KIRKSANTON' embossed around the base and 'FGC' punt mark (brewery operating from at least c1882 to 1954; Mannex and Co c1882, 485; Myers 2006, 13)	Late 19 th – early 20 th century
202	Pottery	2	Bone china: blue transfer-printed body fragments, one possibly 'Broseley'	19 th – 20 th century
202	Pottery	2	Pearlware: blue shell edge plate rim, and factory-produced slipware body fragment with applied white sprigs	Late 18 th – early 19 th century
202	Pottery	4	Creamware: plate base and three refitting body fragments	Mid 18 th – early 19 th century

Context	Type	Qty	Description	Date range
202	Pottery	4	White salt-glazed stoneware. Two refitting cup(?) base fragments plus non-refitting fragment from the same, and saucer rim fragment	18 th century
202	Pottery	3	Red slip-coated buff coloured earthenware body fragments: 2 x coarseware, 1 possible fineware	Late 17 th - early 18 th century
202	Pottery	1	Glazed light orange earthenware pie-crust plate with white slip-coated interior and jewelled red slip	Late 17 th - early 18 th century
202	Pottery	2	Brown-speckled glazed white slip-coated red earthenware hollow-ware rim and body fragment non-refitting from same vessel	Late 17 th - 19 th century
202	Pottery	1	Glazed red earthenware coarseware body fragment with white slip-coated interior	19 th - early 20 th century
202	Pottery	2	Self-glazed red and buff-coloured earthenware dish/bowl rim and body fragment non-refitting from same vessel	Late 17 th - early 18 th century
202	Pottery	13	Black-glazed red earthenware: refitting crock rims x 3, pancheon rim, coarseware base, refitting jug(?) base fragments x 5, coarseware body fragments x 3	Late 17 th - early 20 th century
202	Pottery	4	Brown-glazed red earthenware: refitting fineware jar(?) rim fragments with white slip lines, and coarseware hollow-ware fragment	Late 17 th - early 20 th century
202	Pottery	1	Lightly gritted sandy ware? Much abraded, oxidised/orange coloured body fragment. Similar to a fragment from 102	Late 12 th - 14 th century
202	Pottery	2	Partially reduced, sandy, green-glazed fabric. Abraded, very slightly splayed, flat base fragments of a near-vertical sided jar or jug. The fabric is fairly sandy, with very sparse, very fine inclusions. It is reduced internally and oxidised externally and usually has a grey core to the inner surface and an orange outer margin and surface. It has a dipped, thin, light green, glaze, which has been applied internally and externally. Similar to a fragment from 102	Late 12 th - 14 th century
202	Iron	1	Corroded fragment	Not closely dateable
205	Marine shell	19	2 refitting fragments of cockle shell; 15 mussels shell fragments; and 2 incomplete periwinkle shell	Not closely dateable
205	Fe	1	Possible corroded nail?	Not closely dateable
205	Pottery	1	Creamware hollow-ware fragment with foliate handle terminal fragment?	Mid 18 th - early 19 th century
205	Pottery	1	Pearlware hollow-ware rim painted in earth colours	Late 18 th - early 19 th century

Context	Type	Qty	Description	Date range
205	Pottery	1	Glazed light orange earthenware with white slip-coated interior	Late 17 th – early 18 th century?
205	Pottery	1	Self-glazed orange earthenware coarseware dish(?) rim	Late 17 th - early 18 th century?
205	Pottery	3	Black-glazed red earthenware crock/pancheon rim plus body fragments	Late 17 th - early 20 th century
205	Ceramic building material	3	Brick fragments	Not closely dateable
302	Ceramic building material	5	Red earthenware sand-formed tile fragments, some very high fired, and some with pronounced curve – similar to those from 102 and 307	Not closely dateable
302	Pottery	2	White earthenware bowl base fragments with recessed footrim	Late 19 th – 20 th century
303	Fe	1	Flat head and wrapped hafting for a rake or hoe?	Not closely dateable
305	Fe	1	Curved cast iron sheet fragment	Not closely dateable
307	Industrial residue	1	Vesicular lump	Not closely dateable
307	Pottery	4	Black-glazed red earthenware coarseware body fragments, two refitting	Late 17 th to early 20 th century
307	Fe	1	Cast iron sheet fragment	Not closely dateable
307	Slate	1	Flat fragment, probable roofing slate	Not closely dateable
307	Ceramic building material	1	High-fired sand-formed red earthenware tile fragment	Not closely dateable
307	Ceramic building material	2	Red earthenware curved tile/drain fragment (not sand-formed) plus small chip of same	Post-medieval
307	Animal bone	1	102 complete bones and fragments, probably representing the articulated remains of a single juvenile sheep (which was observed <i>in situ</i> during the excavation of Trench 3 but not totally recovered)	Not closely dateable (probably modern)
402	Pottery	1	Glazed red earthenware coarseware fragment with white slip-coated interior	19 th – early 20 th century